GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:620
ANSWERED ON:21.02.2003
EDIBLE OIL FROM MALAYSIA
AMAR ROY PRADHAN

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether edible oil imported from Malaysia and Indonesia are much cheaper than the domestic edible oil;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether edible oil dumped by foreign countries in India is fit for human consumption;

(d) if so, the circumstances under which these countries are dumping their edible oil in India at cheaper rates; and

(e) the steps taken to check the quality of each lot of oil being dumped by foreign companies/countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c),(d)&(e): There is a gap between demand and indigenous supply of oil. The Government, witha view to ensure availability of edible oils in the domestic market, has allowed import of edible oils including Palm oils and its fraction except coconut oil under Open General License (OGL).As such, the import of edible oils including Palm oil and its fractions would depend upon the commercial judgement of the importers. Imported oils are checked for quality by the Port HealthAuthorities in accordance with the PFA Act and Rules framed thereunder.